

Declaration and Power of Attorney for Patent Application

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name. I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

Database System Including Hierachial Link Table

the specification of which (check one)

is attached hereto.

was filed on _____ as United States Application Serial No. or PCT International Application

Number _____ and was amended on _____ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above- identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56.

I hereby claim the benefit of foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s):

Number	Country	Day/Month/Year	Priority Claimed
<u>11-375559</u>	<u>Japan</u>	<u>28 December 1999</u>	<u>Yes</u>

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

Application Number	Filing Date
_____	_____

I hereby claim the benefit of United States priority under 35 USC 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in a prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information material to patentability of this application as defined in 37 CFR §1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of this application:

Prior U.S. Applications: Serial No.	Filing Date	Status (patented, pending, abandoned)
_____	_____	_____

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

<i>Steven Soucar</i>	<i>Registration No. 32,440</i>
<i>Norman L. Gundel</i>	<i>Registration No. 30,387</i>
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Send Correspondence to: *International Business Machines Corp., IP Law Dept., 8501 IBM Drive, Charlotte, NC 28262*

(1) Full Name of Inventor: Hidenori NMI Nishikawa

Signature: _____ Date _____

Residence: _____

Citizenship: _____

Post Office Address: _____